

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A sealed cartridge comprising first and second sheet materials joined to form a space there between, and a beverage-forming substance for preparing a beverage located in the space between the sheets, with the first material designed to admit water into the cartridge for extraction of the beverage from the beverage-forming substance, and the second material having properties to retain the water or beverage in the cartridge until an overpressure of between 0.1 ~~to~~ and 3 bar is achieved, at which overpressure the second material will allow the extracted beverage to exit the cartridge, wherein the first sheet material is selected from the group consisting of filter paper, a non-woven fiber, ~~preseared plastic material~~ and combinations thereof and wherein the second sheet is air permeable and is selected from the group consisting of filter paper, non-woven fiber material, ~~preseared plastic material~~ and combinations thereof having a sufficiently tight mesh to retain water or beverage in the cartridge until the overpressure is reached and allows the beverage to pass through it by effect of the fluid overpressure alone when the overpressure of between 0.1 ~~to~~ and 3 bar is reached, thus resulting in a delay effect in the passage of the beverage through the second sheet after water has been admitted into the ~~capsule~~ cartridge.

Claim 2 (original): The cartridge of claim 1 wherein the beverage-forming substance is roasted and ground coffee, soluble coffee, a chocolate beverage forming substance or a mixture thereof.

Claim 3 (canceled):

Claim 4 (previously presented): The cartridge of claim 1 wherein the first material is filter paper having a density of 15 to 30 g/m² and a thickness between 0.1 to 1 mm or a non-woven fiber or plastic material having a density of between 20 and 100 g/m² so that it will permit water to enter the cartridge by gravity flow.

Claim 5 (original): The cartridge of claim 1 wherein the first material is aluminum having a thickness of 20 to 100 microns and is configured to allow puncturing by piercing means in order for water to be admitted into the cartridge.

Claims 6-9 (canceled):

Claim 10 (previously presented): The cartridge of claim 1 wherein the second sheet includes a removable cover.

Claim 11 (original): The cartridge of claim 1 wherein both the first and second sheets are made of a material that acts as an oxygen barrier so that no further packaging of the cartridge is required.

Claim 12 (original): The cartridge of claim 1 wherein either or both of the first and second sheets are not made of a material that acts as an oxygen barrier so that a further packaging of the cartridge is required to prevent oxygen deterioration of the beverage-forming substance.

Claim 13 (canceled):

Claim 14 (original): The cartridge of claim 2 wherein the first and second sheet materials have a circular, oval, or polygonal shape and the substance is present in an amount of 5 to 10 grams.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The cartridge of claim 2 wherein the first and second materials are each made of filter paper.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The cartridge of claim 2 wherein the first and second materials each is a non-woven fiber or plastic material.

Claims 17-18 (canceled):

Claim 19 (previously presented): The cartridge of claim 1, wherein the second sheet is made of a non-woven material having a tight mesh allowing water to pass through it when the overpressure inside the capsule reaches 1 bar.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The cartridge of claim 1, wherein the second sheet is made of a material having properties to retain the water or beverage in the cartridge when an overpressure of the order of 1 bar is reached within the cartridge during extraction.